

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Michael F. Roberts et al. Art Unit : 1744
Serial No. : 10/036,022 Examiner : M. Spisich
Filed : December 26, 2001 Conf. No. : 2417
Title : GUM-MASSAGING ORAL BRUSH

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF CRAIG MASTERMAN

I, Craig Masterman, declare as follows:

1. I received a bachelor's degree with a major in chemistry from University of North Carolina, and a PhD in Chemistry (polymer science-related) from M.I.T. I worked for 10 years for Gillette, designing various oral care devices. I am a co-inventor of the above-referenced patent application.

2. During development of the toothbrushes described in the above-referenced application, my co-inventors and I discovered that extrusion did not work well for forming elastomeric elements. Elastomeric elements formed by extrusion generally exhibited unsatisfactory wear resistance. Also, the soft materials used to form the elastomeric elements proved very difficult to successfully extrude and draw. Many elastomers have elongations at break of between 100 and 500 percent, and thus act like "rubber bands" when drawn.

3. To our surprise, we found that molded elastomeric elements exhibited better wear resistance than the elastomeric elements that were formed by extrusion. This result was surprising to us because it ran counter to the general knowledge in the art that the wear resistance of conventional Nylon bristles would be unsatisfactory if the bristles were molded, and that extrusion and drawing should be used instead in order to obtain satisfactory properties.

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are

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punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Date: _____

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